



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 1, 2002

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**SENATOR DUNN AND GO SERV AMERICORPS
MEMBERS WILL HOST CAL GRANT WORKSHOP**

First in a Series of Statewide Workshops Hosted in Partnership by Legislator and GO SERV

SANTA ANA – Nearly 200 high school students will benefit this Saturday, February 2, 2002, from a Cal Grant workshop hosted in partnership by Senator Joseph Dunn (D-Garden Grove) and the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism (GO SERV).

"My goal is to get every student, parent and teacher 100 percent behind the program this year," Senator Dunn said. "Because the grants are not just a ticket to college, they are ticket to the future success of our community."

AmeriCorps members will act as facilitators, assisting college bound high school students apply for a Cal Grant. The AmeriCorps members have undergone in-depth training specifically for these workshops, which will help both the prospective students, as well as AmeriCorps members, who make a commitment to a term of community service. English and Spanish speaking AmeriCorps members will be at the workshop.

"AmeriCorps members have proven they can get important things done in their community," Executive Director of GO SERV, Chuck Supple said. "While fulfilling their commitment, they are also helping some high school students get the assistance they need to attend college."

The partnership initiated between GO SERV and the Legislature was the brainchild of GO SERV and Senator John Burton's office. The offer to partner was then extended to the entire Legislature. A number of other legislators have partnered to host Cal Grant workshops, including Senator Debra Bowen (D-Marina Del Rey), Senator John Burton (D-San Francisco) Senator Deborah Ortiz (D-Sacramento), Senator Don Perata (D-Alameda), Senator Nell Soto (D-Pomona) and Assemblymember Simon Salinas (D-Salinas).

Senator Dunn's workshop will take place from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. this Saturday, February 2, 2002 at Santa Ana High School. The school's address is 520 West Walnut Street, Santa Ana, CA 92701.

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SENATOR DUNN AND GO SERV HOST CAL GRANT WORKSHOP 2-2-2-2

Under the historic Cal Grant expansion program signed by Governor Gray Davis in 2000, every college-bound student who qualifies and meets the March 2 application deadline will get a Cal Grant of up to \$9,700 each year for tuition, books, and living expenses at qualifying California colleges or universities. Graduates from last year and high school students graduating in 2002 with a B (3.0) grade average or higher can qualify for a Cal Grant A to be used at a public or private four-year institution. Students with a C (2.0) grade average can qualify for a Cal Grant B to be used at a community college. Prior to implementation of the new Cal Grant guarantee, Cal Grants were awarded on a first-come-first-served basis with a limited number of awards available.

Applicants have until March 2 to complete the two-step application process. Students must file a school-certified copy of their GPA along with a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). To encourage students to meet the deadline, English and Spanish outreach messages are airing on radio stations, and in particular through the Internet, where teens get most of their news.

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